

**JOINT STATE SPORT HEARING
FACT SHEET
April 11, 2001**

Purpose: To consider modifications to ongoing Columbia River spring chinook sport fishery.

SPRING CHINOOK MANAGEMENT

- Non-Indian fisheries for 2001 will be managed not to exceed a 2% impact rate on upriver wild spring chinook.
- At the February 20, 2001 hearing the Compact gave guidance concerning allocation of upriver spring chinook impacts for non-Indian fisheries.

<i>Non-Indian Fishery Impacts For Upriver Wild Spring Chinook</i>		
Fishery	Impacts	
	Guideline	Current Update
Winter Season Commercial Fishery	0.5%	0.44%
Mainstem Sport Fishery (Proj. thru 4/15)	0.8%	0.78%
Spring Commercial Tooth Net Study	0.4%	0.40%
Other Non-Target Fisheries	0.3%	0.28%
Total	2.0%	1.90%

STOCK STATUS

- Preseason expectation was for a return of 434,400 spring chinook to the Columbia River, of which 364,600 would be destined for above Bonneville Dam.
- Through April 10 a total of 88,500 adult spring chinook have passed Bonneville Dam.
- Counts to date are inadequate to update run size at this time.
- Run typically peaks at Bonneville Dam during mid to late April.

MAINSTEM SPORT FISHERY

- At the February 20, 2001 meeting, the states of Oregon and Washington adopted a selective sport fishery in the mainstem Columbia River.

<i>Current Fishery</i>	
Area:	Mouth at Buoy 10 upstream to Bonneville Dam
Dates:	March 12-April 30
Days Open:	7 days per week
Catch Restrictions:	All adipose fin-clipped chinook salmon, adipose fin-clipped steelhead, and shad may be retained. Non-adipose fin-clipped salmon and steelhead must be released unharmed.

- Fishery would continue through the end of April subject to the 0.8% impact rates in conjunction with other non-Indian fisheries.

- Preseason catch expectations were for a catch of 28,000 spring chinook, of which 13,000-15,000 could be retained, from over 100,000 angler trips.
- Through April 9, effort and success has exceeded preseason expectations with 19,200 chinook caught, of which 12,500 have been retained, from an estimated 95,000 angler trips.
- To date effort and catch in the area above I-5 Bridge has greatly exceeded preseason expectations.
- Effort and catch is projected to increase this week as the upriver run is expected to peak in the lower Columbia River.
- Through April 15, impacts to wild upriver spring chinook are estimated to be 0.78% which is similar to the preseason guideline of 0.8%. Catches are expected to total 31,600 chinook caught, with 20,500 retained, from an estimated 136,000 angler trips.

FISHERY OPTIONS

<i>Option 1</i>	
Area:	Columbia River mouth at Buoy 10 to Bonneville Dam.
Dates:	Close effective 12:01 AM April 18
Catch Restrictions:	Currently adopted selective fishery restrictions remain in place.
Expected Angler Trips:	10,000
Expected Catch:	3,200 chinook caught 2,000 chinook kept
Upriver wild impacts:	0.08%
	Grand Total = 0.86%

- Proposed fishery maintains a continuous fishery until catch guideline is reached.
- Proposed fishery allows for a more orderly closure of ongoing fishery.
- Proposed fishery remains within non-Indian 2% impact guideline.
- Proposed fishery does not achieve preseason management intent of extending fishery throughout the historically most important month for salmon angling.

<i>Option 2</i>	
Area:	Columbia River mouth at Buoy 10 to Bonneville Dam.
Dates:	Close effective Monday April 16 through April 30 except reopen during Sunday April 22 and Monday April 23
Catch Restrictions:	<p>During open days adipose fin-clipped chinook salmon, adipose fin-clipped steelhead, and shad may be retained.</p> <p>During open days non-adipose clipped salmon and steelhead must be released unharmed.</p> <p>During closed days angling for salmon, steelhead or shad is prohibited.</p>
Expected Angler Trips:	17,000
Expected Catch:	<p>4,500 chinook caught</p> <p>3,000 chinook kept</p>
Upriver wild impacts:	<p>0.12%</p> <p>Grand Total = 0.90%</p>

- Proposed fishery allows for increased management flexibility while remaining within 2% impact rate allocated for non-Indian fisheries.
- Proposed fishery continues progress towards preseason management intent of extending fishery throughout the historically most important month for salmon angling.
- Proposed fishery may require modifications of future fisheries to remain within the 2% non-Indian impact guideline.

<i>Joint Staff Recommendations</i>
<p>✓ No fishery modifications should occur prior to April 16.</p> <p>✓ Fishery checkpoints should remain in place for Tuesdays and Fridays to monitor ongoing fisheries and update run sizes.</p> <p>✓ Based on results of fishery checkpoints fishery could be further modified to access remaining impacts.</p>

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
April 11, 2001